

## **Amendments to the Claims**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
  - splitting ~~[[an]]~~ a SMPTE-standard optical stream into a primary optical stream and a secondary optical stream;
  - converting the secondary optical stream to an electrical signal;
  - identifying a clock signal and a data signal from the electrical signal;
  - receiving a selection from a user indicating at least a particular bit position ~~portion~~ of the SMPTE-standard optical stream to be modified;
  - determining whether the particular bit position of the SMPTE-standard optical stream is located in an active video portion, a horizontally ancillary data portion, a vertically ancillary data portion, a start-video timing portion, or an end active video timing portion of the SMPTE-standard optical stream;
  - identifying the particular bit position ~~portion of the optical signal in the determined portion of the SMPTE-standard optical stream~~ based on at least the clock signal ~~[[,]]~~ and the data signal, ~~and the received selection from the user;~~
  - generating a gating signal at the particular bit position of the optical stream;
  - delaying the primary optical stream to provide a delayed optical stream;
  - synchronizing the delayed optical stream with the gating signal; and
  - modifying the particular bit position ~~portion~~ of the delayed optical ~~signal~~ stream based on the ~~received selection from the user~~ gating signal.
- 2-3 (Cancelled).
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said modifying the particular bit position ~~portion~~ comprises inverting at least ~~one bit in~~ the particular bit position ~~portion~~ of the delayed optical stream.
5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said modifying the particular bit position ~~portion~~ comprises suppressing at least ~~one bit in~~ the particular bit position ~~portion~~ of the delayed optical stream.

6-7 (Cancelled).

8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the SMPTE-standard optical stream ~~is~~ comprises a SMPTE259M video stream.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein said modifying the particular bit position ~~portion~~ of the delayed optical signal comprises introducing ~~introduces~~ at least one bit error in the SMPTE259M video stream.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

an optical splitter to split ~~[[an]]~~ a SMPTE-standard optical stream into a primary optical stream and a secondary optical stream;

an optoelectronic converter to convert the secondary optical stream to an electrical signal;

a processor to process the electrical signal to identify a particular bit position ~~portion~~ of the SMPTE-standard optical stream, the processor operative to:

identify a clock signal and a data signal from the electrical signal;

receive a selection from a user indicating at least the particular bit position ~~portion~~ of the SMPTE-standard optical stream to be modified; and

determine whether the particular bit position of the SMPTE-standard optical stream is located in an active video portion, a horizontally ancillary data portion, a vertically ancillary data portion, a start-video timing portion, or an end active video timing portion of the SMPTE-standard optical stream;

identify the particular bit position ~~portion~~ in the determined position of the SMPTE-standard optical stream based on at least the clock signal ~~[[,]]~~ and the data signal, ~~and the received selection from the user;~~ and

generate a gating signal at the particular bit position;

an optical delay to delay the primary optical stream to provide a delayed optical stream; and

an optical switch responsive to the processor to modify the particular bit position ~~portion~~ of the delayed optical signal based on the ~~received selection from the user~~ gating signal.

12-14 (Cancelled).

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the optical switch is to modify the particular bit position ~~portion~~ by suppressing at least ~~one bit~~ in the particular bit position ~~portion~~ of the delayed SMPTE-standard optical stream.

16-17 (Cancelled).

18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the SMPTE-standard optical stream ~~comprises~~ is a SMPTE259M video stream.

19-31 (Cancelled).

32. (New) A method comprising:

splitting a SMPTE-standard optical system into a primary optical stream and a secondary optical stream;

converting the secondary optical signal to an electrical signal;

identifying a data signal and a clock signal from the electrical signal;

applying the data signal and the clock signal to a programmable delay line;

receiving a selection from a user indicating at least a particular portion of the SMPTE-standard optical system to be modified;

determining whether the particular portion of the SMPTE-standard optical stream is located in an active video portion, a horizontally ancillary data portion, a vertically ancillary data portion, a start-video timing portion, or an end active video timing portion of the SMPTE-standard optical stream;

identifying the particular portion in the determined location of the SMPTE-standard optical stream;

generating an electrical gating signal at the particular portion of the SMPTE-standard optical stream;

converting the electrical gating signal to an optical gating signal;

delaying the primary optical stream to provide a delayed optical stream;

synchronizing the delayed optical stream and the optical gating signal based on the programmable delay line; and

modifying the particular portion of the delayed optical stream based on the optical gating signal.